away. —— After this Separation the Fish that remained with me was so affected, that for three Weeks it would eat nothing I could give it; and therefore, fearing it would pine to Death, I sent it to the Gentleman on whom I had bestowed its Companion; and what is very extraordinary, upon being put together again, it eat immediately, recovered its former Briskness, and both of them are still alive.

I have made abundance of other Observations on Fish, but shall only add at present, that when they remain supine and unactive, they every now-and-then gape and yawn, as most Land Animals do, when weary of the Situation they are in. I remain,

SIR,

Norwich, July 9. 1746.

Yours, &c.

W. Arderon.

XVI. *A Supposition how the* white Matter *is produced, which floats about in the Air in Autumn; in a Letter from the same to Mr.* Baker.

SIR, *Norwich*, Aug. 28. 1746.

Read Feb. 26. 1746-7. HAVING lately a large Spider in my Hand, by chance I let it fall, and it hung by its Thread, as they very commonly do. On holding my Hand very still it readily ascended up it again; and thus, by giving it a Shake, and then holding my Hand still, the Spider ascended and descended

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ſcended a great many times. I thought, at firſt, it had ſpun a new Thread at every Deſcent, and was deſirous to have meaſured how long an one I could cauſe it thus to ſpin; but, upon a ſtricter Examination, I very plainly perceived, that whenever it aſcended, it wound its Thread with its Feet into a ſort of Coil, and when it deſcended only ravelled it out again.

The Manner how they perform this is diverting enough; but as Spiders may be had almoſt in every Place, and the Experiment is ſo eaſily tried, I ſhall forbear deſcribing it; and only add, that as theſe Coils of Thread are exactly like thoſe floating in the Air towards the End of Summer, I think it is not improbable thoſe are made in the ſame Manner, when Spiders have a Mind to direct their Courſe in the ſame Direction their Threads lie.

XVII. *Some Remarks on the precious Stone called the* Turquoiſe; *by* Cromwel Mortimer, *Sec. R. S.* &c.

Read Feb. 26. 1746-7.

THIS Stone has received its modern Name of *Turcheſia*, and *Turquoiſe*, from its being moſt commonly brought from *Turky* into various Parts of *Europe*. *De Boodt* * ſays, the Colour of this Gem is a Variegation of Green, White, and Blue; and that there are two Sorts of it, the oriental, from the *Eaſt Indies* and *Perſia*, and the occidental,

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* Gemmar. et Lap. Hiſt.